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Message Text

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
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Z O 102200Z JUL 75
FM USDEL SECRETARY IN GENEVA
TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO FLASH
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SECTO 06027

NODIS CHEROKEE

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ACOM
SUBJECT: MIDDLE EAST NEGOTIATION: MESSAGE FOR FAHMY

REF: CAIRO 6784

1. PLEASE TELL FAHMY THAT I CAN UNDERSTAND HIS AND PRESIDENT SADAT'S CONCERN AT PACE OF NEGOTIATIONS. THE PROBLEM, AS I PREVIOUSLY EXPLAINED, IS THAT WE ARE CONTINUING TO PRESS ISRAEL TO WITHDRAW FROM THE PASSES. WHILE WE HAVE GOT THEM TO AGREE TO MOVE BACK BEYOND LINE PREVIOUSLY PROPOSED AND HAVE ACHIEVED SOME IMPROVEMENT WITH RESPECT TO THE CORRIDOR ROAD TO THE OIL FIELDS, THIS IS SLOW AND PAINFUL PROCESS AND IS RELATED IN COMPLEX WAYS TO MANY OTHER THINGS ISRAEILIS ARE DISCUSSING WITH US WITH RESPECT BOTH TO ELEMENTS OF AGREEMENT ITSELF AND TO BILATERAL ISSUES. BECAUSE THE INTERRELATED ELEMENTS OF OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH ISRAELIS ARE SO COMPLEX, I HAVE FELT ONLY WAY TO EXPLAIN MATTERS TO EGYPTIANS ACCURATELY IS TO DISCUSS SITUATION IN DEPTH WITH YOU SO YOU WILL HAVE FULL PICTURE WITH ALL ITS NUCANCS FOR BRIEFING PRESIDENT AND FAHMY.

2. YOU MAY ALSO TELL FAHMY THAT IT CONTINUES TO BE MY ESTIMATE THAT WE WILL NOT BE IN POSITION TO GIVE EGYPTIANS
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COMPLETE SITUATION UNTIL RABIN HAS RETURNED TO ISRAEL AND

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DISCUSSED SITUATION WITH HIS GOVERNMENT AND THEN SENDS
DINITZ BACK TO WASHINGTON, PROBABLY EARLY NEXT WEEK, TO
GIVE US ISRAELI RESPONSE. IT IS NOT SIMPLY A CASE OF
ISRAELI GOVERNMENT APPROVING RABIN'S POSITION; HE MAY
NEED TO MODIFY IT AFTER DISCUSSION WITH HIS CABINET COL-
LEAGUES. NEVERTHELESS, IN RESPONSE TO FAHMY'S CONCERN,
I AM PREPARED--IF ON REFLECTION THIS IS STILL HIS WISH--
TO HAVE YOU FLY TO BONN AND TRAVEL WITH ME FROM BONN TO
LONDON SO I CAN BRIEF YOU ON STATE OF PLAY AT THAT STAGE
AND YOU CAN RETURN TO CAIRO TO GIVE INTERIM REPORT TO
FAHMY AND SADAT, AS FAHMY HAS REQUESTED. FAHMY WILL WANT
TO WEIGH RISK THAT SUCH TRIP BY YOU, RIGHT AFTER I SEE
RABIN, WILL ALMOST INEVITABLY AROUSE PUBLIC SPECULATION
AND EXPECTATIONS AT A TIME WHEN OUTCOME WILL NOT YET BE
CLEAR. ALSO, IT WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY STILL BE NECE-
SARY FOR YOU TO RETURN TO WASHINGTON MID-WEEK TO BE
BROUGHT UP TO DATE AFTER I HAVE HEARD FURTHER FROM
ISRAELIS. IF YOU ARE IN WASHINGTON WED., JULY 16, AS
PRESENTLY PLANNED, YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO BE BACK IN
CAIRO FRIDAY NIGHT.

3. FYI. I ESTIMATE MY DEPARTURE FROM BONN TO LONDON
AT 12 NOON BONN TIME SATURDAY, JULY 12. IF FAHMY
STILL WANTS INTERIM REPORT AND AT THIS STAGE IT IS
PHYSICALLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR YOU TO GET TO BONN IN
TIME, ALTERNATIVE IS TO MEET ME IN LONDON FOR BRIEF-
ING AT AIRPORT FOLLOWING MY AFTERNOON TALKS WITH
BRITISH, ALTHOUGH I WOULD PREFER TO AVOID THIS IF AT
ALL POSSIBLE. IF YOU CAN MAKE IT TO BONN, YOU
SHOULD ADVISE EMBASSY NODIS THAT YOU ARE COMING
TO JOIN ME FOR FLIGHT TO LONDON AND THAT IT SHOULD
MAKE NECESSARY ARRANGMENTS. IF YOU CANNOT MAKE BONN,
YOU SHOULD ASK EMBASSY LONDON TO ARRANGE FOR YOU TO
MEET ME AT AIRPORT SATURDAY AFTERNOON. END FYI.

4. IF YOU DO MEET ME IN EUROPE, WE WOULD WANT TO
HANDLE IT LOW KEY AND NOT MAKE ANY ANNOUNCEMENT,
ALTHOUGH I WOULD INFORM ISRAELIS SO THEY DO NOT
MISCONSTRUE TRIP. IF IT BECAME KNOWN TO PRESS,
AS IS LIKELY, WE WOULD SIMPLY SAY THAT THIS IS PART
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OF OUR CONTINUING PROCESS OF KEEPING PARTIES INFORMED
AS OUR CONSULTATIONS GO FORWARD, AND THAT NOTHING
MORE SHOULD BE READ INTO IT. KISSINGER

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